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PATENT

wherein each X is independently O or S;

R² is a group comprising at least one pi bond connected to the carbon atom attached to the base; and

Pr is (H)₂ or a protecting group; and

effecting a protocol to amplify said target nucleic acid.

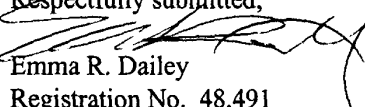
138. (New) A method of claim 137 wherein said protocol includes hybridization of said oligomer to said target nucleic acid.

REMARKS

After entry of the above amendment, claims 128-138 will be pending. Support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request an early Office Action on the merits.

Applicants enclose herewith a page entitled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 1 and add claims 128 - 138.